

Iowa Crops & Weather



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For the week ending April 9, 2006

Spring Rains, Warmer Days

Agricultural Summary: Precipitation made it difficult for Iowa farmers to accomplish much field work last week. While many areas remained too wet for field activities, some farmers began fertilizing, tilling, planting oats and applying nitrogen. There were reports of tile lines plugged by thirsty tree roots. The early rains have been a good test of tiles and allow time to get repairs completed before major spring rains. Field work should move quickly with a few dry days.

There were 1.7 **days suitable for fieldwork**, compared to 5 days last year at this time. **Topsoil moisture** rated 3 percent very short, 8 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 19 percent surplus across the state. **Subsoil moisture** rated 8 percent very short, 24 percent short, 54 percent adequate, and 14 percent surplus. Soil moisture levels increased from last week and iare keeping pace with last year.

Field Crops Report: **Oats seedings** were 19 percent complete, well below last year's progress of 67 percent and the five-year average of 40 percent. No significant **corn planting** was reported in the state. **Primary seedbed preparations** were 30 percent complete compared to 52 percent last year and 43 percent for the five-year average. **Fertilizer applications**, at 60 percent, were 11 percentage points below last year but 3 percentage points ahead of the five-year average.

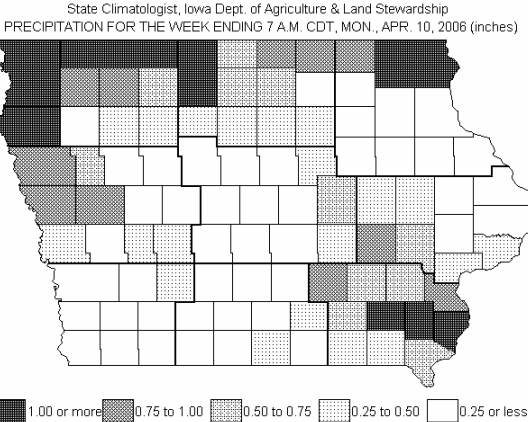
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Calving is going well in all areas of the state. Warmer weather helped offset the wet conditions and few livestock problems were reported. **Pasture and range** condition rated 5 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 37 percent good and 4 percent excellent; very similar to this time last week. Last falls extremely dry weather damaged pastures and slowed their rebound this spring, especially in the southern part of the state.

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Iowa weather summary for the week ending 7 a.m. CDT, Monday, April 10, 2006: The past work week began with dry weather and seasonal temperatures on Monday (3rd) and Tuesday (4th). Daytime temperatures rose into the 60's east and 70's southwest on Wednesday (5th). Afternoon highs soared into the 80's in the far west on Thursday (6th) but were only in the 50's across the northeast. High temperatures on Friday (7th) reached only the 40's over northeastern Iowa but briefly reached into the 70's over the southeast. Finally, highs were in the 50's on Saturday (8th) with 50's northeast and 60's southwest on Sunday (9th). Temperature extremes for the week ranged from highs of 87 degrees at Little Sioux and Onawa on Thursday (6th) to lows of 22 degrees on Saturday (8th) morning at Mason City, Waterloo and Elkader. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged from 0.9 degrees above normal at Cedar Rapids and Dubuque to 5.4 degrees above normal at Sioux City and Spencer (statewide average 3.2 degrees above normal). There was only one period of rainfall during the week with thunderstorms beginning late Wednesday (5th) and spreading statewide on Thursday (6th) with only a few areas of rain remaining across the far west and north on Friday (7th) morning. Weekly precipitation amounts varied from 0.02 inches at Clinton to 3.25 inches at Akron and 3.18 inches at Sibley in the far northwest. The statewide average precipitation was 0.47 inches or about two-thirds of the weekly normal of 0.72 inches. There were a few reports of large hail across southeast Iowa on Thursday (6th) and far western Iowa later Thursday evening. Finally soil temperatures at the four inch depth were averaging in the mid to upper 40s's statewide as of Sunday (9th).

Statewide Crop Conditions as of April 9, 2006

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range & Pasture	5	18	36	37	4



Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 9, 2006

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	Normal
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Fertilizer application completed	53	65	48	70	70	56	72	68	45	60	53	71	57
Seedbed, primary preparation completed	23	29	28	26	48	22	39	40	34	30	24	52	43
Oats planted	4	9	10	33	35	21	28	26	17	19	6	67	40

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 9, 2006

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
Days suitable	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days
	0.6	0.4	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.1	3.4	2.3	0.7	1.7	1.0	5.0
Topsoil moisture	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
	Very short	0	0	6	3	1	1	14	5	0	3	3
Short	0	4	8	13	5	9	5	20	9	8	9	17
Adequate	63	58	63	84	78	85	76	63	57	70	69	76
Surplus	37	38	23	0	16	5	5	12	34	19	19	4
Subsoil moisture	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
	Very short	0	0	8	18	5	6	19	17	1	8	9
Short	2	5	22	27	25	38	30	46	25	24	30	16
Adequate	60	63	60	54	60	55	41	35	53	54	55	76
Surplus	38	32	10	1	10	1	10	2	21	14	6	6

Weather Summary For Iowa Agricultural Statistics Service Prepared by AWIS, Inc. For the week ending: Sunday, April 9, 2006										
STATION	CURRENT WEEK					SINCE APRIL 1		CURRENT WEEK		
	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN
	North West District									
Estherville	72	28	46	6	1.59	0.98	2.75	1.98	13	11
Sioux Center	78	28	51	7	1.33	0.77	1.33	0.63	35	21
Spencer	75	25	47	6	0.81	0.25	1.47	0.75	27	20
Spirit Lake	74	24	45	6	1.75	1.20	1.75	1.13	12	-2
North Central District										
Britt	68	27	44	1	1.20	0.56	2.08	1.28	6	-1
Humboldt	71	29	46	2	0.62	-0.03	1.26	0.43	17	10
Mason City	69	22	44	3	1.23	0.60	2.18	1.39	11	4
Osage	66	26	43	0	1.25	0.55	2.22	1.34	4	-10
North East District										
Decorah	63	27	45	2	0.94	0.21	1.68	0.76	6	-1
Dubuque	62	28	45	2	1.66	0.82	1.67	0.61	7	0
Elkader	65	22	43	-2	0.90	0.22	0.95	0.09	2	-16
Fayette	65	24	43	-2	0.42	-0.27	0.67	-0.20	1	-6
Waterloo	68	23	45	1	0.68	-0.02	0.99	0.10	11	3
West Central District										
Carroll	75	26	47	3	0.57	-0.13	0.93	0.04	21	11
Castana	84	28	49	3	0.90	0.33	1.21	0.48	28	20
Guthrie Center	76	24	48	3	0.68	-0.02	1.32	0.42	22	8
Harlan	83	27	49	3	0.66	0.02	1.20	0.38	28	17
Jefferson	74	27	48	4	0.46	-0.24	0.93	0.04	21	11
Logan	82	28	50	4	0.79	0.19	1.16	0.40	29	14
Rockwell City	75	27	46	2	0.47	-0.11	1.34	0.60	21	7
Sac City	76	28	47	5	0.57	-0.06	1.05	0.24	22	15
Sioux City	86	27	50	5	0.84	0.35	0.86	0.23	40	26
Central District										
Boone	73	27	47	2	0.31	-0.39	1.13	0.23	19	7
Des Moines	76	30	53	6	0.50	-0.25	0.89	-0.06	36	20
Grundy Center	69	25	45	3	1.05	0.37	1.81	0.95	8	1
Marshalltown	70	25	47	4	0.42	-0.28	0.89	-0.01	18	9
Newton	72	26	48	3	0.44	-0.25	0.68	-0.19	13	-1
Perry	75	26	48	4	0.58	-0.08	1.12	0.28	21	13
Toledo	69	25	45	2	1.67	0.98	2.25	1.38	9	2
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	68	27	47	3	0.98	0.28	1.21	0.31	13	3
Davenport	67	26	48	3	1.39	0.66	1.39	0.46	16	2
Iowa City	69	29	50	2	1.67	0.87	1.73	0.71	19	2
Lowden	67	24	45	0	1.06	0.24	1.07	0.03	3	-9
Maquoketa	64	27	44	-1	1.09	0.39	1.13	0.23	0	-8
Muscatine	69	28	49	3	1.39	0.62	1.64	0.65	17	10
South West District										
Atlantic	80	23	52	7	0.23	-0.41	1.29	0.47	32	22
Clarinda	80	26	51	5	0.71	0.01	1.17	0.27	32	20
Glenwood	86	29	51	5	1.01	0.42	1.82	1.07	32	16
Red Oak	83	28	52	4	1.04	0.30	1.86	0.92	34	15
Sidney	85	31	52	6	0.87	0.19	1.53	0.67	32	16
South Central District										
Allerton	74	24	50	4	0.55	-0.16	0.79	-0.12	25	22
Beaconsfield	74	28	50	5	0.17	-0.53	0.56	-0.34	24	10
Chariton	73	24	48	3	0.46	-0.31	0.99	0.02	19	5
Indianola	75	28	50	5	0.69	-0.07	1.06	0.10	25	11
Leon	76	24	50	5	0.28	-0.46	0.69	-0.25	29	15
South East District										
Bloomfield	72	31	51	2	0.71	-0.06	1.09	0.11	22	1
Burlington	73	31	52	5	2.32	1.55	2.60	1.61	30	12
Ottumwa	71	29	51	4	1.22	0.52	1.51	0.61	24	7
Washington	68	28	48	-1	1.39	0.69	1.73	0.83	11	4

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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